STAT

ARTICLE APPEARED ON PAGE A-3

NEW YORK TIMES 29 October 1984

Brzezinski Assails U.S. Officials

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28 — Federal officials have been "unwitting or in some cases, perhaps, even witting tools" of a Soviet campaign to divert attention from a purported plot to murder the Pope, Zbigniew Brzezinski, national security adviser to former President Jimmy Carter, said in an interview broadcast today.

"What I find very troublesome over the past two years," Mr. Brzezinski said in the interview with the RKO Radio Network, "was the frequency with which senior officials, in fact, participated in the campaign of pooh-poohing what turns out to be a very serious plot."

On Friday, an Italian judge indicted four Turks and three Bulgarians on charges of taking part in a conspiracy to kill the Pope. "I think it is absolutely scandalous that some officials in the State Department and some senior officials in the C.I.A. were unwitting or in some cases, perhaps, even witting tools of that campaign," Mr. Brzezinski said.

Reached by telephone today at his

Reached by telephone today at his home in Virginia, Mr. Brzezinski declined to name any Federal officials or offer any evidence to support his accusation.

"I was referring to repeated instances of trying to discredit these investigations by the Italians," he said, stressing that the use of the word "or" in his radio statement meant he was speaking tentatively about the role of Government officials.

Spokesmen for the State Department and the <u>Central Intelligence Agency</u> said they did not have any comment on Mr. Brzezinski's radio interview.